



**Montana
Office of Public Instruction**
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TO: Montana K-12/Higher Education Educators
FROM: Judy Snow, State Assessment Director
DATE: December 2012
RE: Montana State Network of Educators for the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Formative Assessment Resources

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Formative Assessment Practices and Professional Learning workgroup is responsible for a Digital Library which will house formative assessment resources. Each state in the consortium will identify a network of educators. Approximately 80 Montana K-12 and higher education educators will have the opportunity to be part of a Montana State Network of educators that will identify and recommend resources for the Digital Library and disseminate web-based educator training to Montana educators. The information that follows is based on information currently available and may change as the project progresses.

This important work is expected to last two years. Between January and August 2013, it is planned that the State Network will be involved in feedback cycles with a 5-10 day turnaround between the request and the feedback. Once the web-based trainings begin, there will be five trainings between August 2013 and June 2014. After each training session, each State Network member is expected to identify and recommend an upload of at least one additional resource for the Digital Library.

All of the work for State Network of Educators is expected to be outside of the regular work schedule. The Contractor for the project will contract with the network educators and pay a stipend from designated contract teacher training funds. The stipend for full participation is estimated to be approximately \$1300-\$1500, but the contract specifics will be determined by the Contractor after contract execution.

The State Network will be composed of educators with expertise and experience in the areas listed in the table below.

Grade Level	Content/Expertise	Content /Expertise	Content/Expertise
K-12	ELA	Math	
Higher Education	ELA	Math	
K-2	ELL	SWD	Administration
3-5	ELL	SWD	Administration
6-8	ELL	SWD	Administration
9-12	ELL	SWD	Administration
Higher Education	ELL	SWD	Administration

Montana educators are encouraged to volunteer to participate in the Montana State Network. Phase one of the volunteer process is now open and will close on January 15, 2013. The membership of the State Network will be finalized in March 2013.

To volunteer, please register via an online survey located at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QCRPZPB>

Please share this information with your colleagues. This is a wonderful opportunity to lead the future grade and content formative assessment efforts within Montana and the consortium. The hope is that the network members will connect with colleagues in common grade levels, content areas, and expertise throughout the Smarter Balanced states, and also with educators across our own state, to continue state efforts to help educators transition to CCSS and implement effective classroom instruction with formative assessment practices.